

THE Mentor

News from the State Retirement and Pension System of Maryland

JANUARY 2005
VOL. 27 NO. 3



STATE RETIREMENT
and PENSION SYSTEM
of MARYLAND

Pre-Retirement seminars slated for teachers and county/local government members

Sessions offered from Frostburg to Salisbury

DO YOU WORK at a public school, community college or library? Or, maybe you have a job with a participating county or local governmental unit.

If you're a member working for any of these employers, and you are within eight years of retirement, make plans now to attend an upcoming Pre-Retirement Seminar hosted by the State Retirement Agency of Maryland.

A new season of information-packed seminars is now underway, with sessions scheduled from Western Maryland to the Eastern Shore. Please use the registration form on pages 3 and 4 of this newsletter to reserve a seat at the location of your choice. This registration form is also available from your Retirement Coordinator and on the Internet at www.sra.state.md.us.

Pre-Retirement Seminars provide participants with a detailed explanation of the retirement process. Specially trained speakers at these events lead discussions on State pension benefits, legal issues, Social

Security, financial planning and enjoying retirement.

To attend this seminar, you must be a member employed by a public school, community college, library, participating county or local governmental unit *and* be within eight years of retirement. Your

spouse is welcome to attend with you. Signed interpreters can be provided on request.

For more information, please contact the Retirement Agency at 410-625-5555 or toll free at 1-800-492-5909.

Seminar attendees are talking!

- Lots of good information. A day well spent. I would recommend that everyone take advantage of this seminar.
- Sessions were very useful, helpful and entertaining. Good job.
- I'm glad I came. There was a lot of information given that I had no idea I should be considering before deciding to retire.
- Great program. I feel much better about the possibilities. Learned a lot!



- All of the speakers presented the information with clarity and in a meaningful way.
- Excellent, balanced program.

The seminar described in this newsletter is for members employed by a public school, community college, library, participating county or local governmental unit only.

Pre-retirement videos bring practical information to the small screen

IF YOU'RE BEGINNING TO THINK ABOUT RETIREMENT, now is the time to watch one of the State Retirement Agency's informational pre-retirement videos. These videos answer the questions most frequently asked by members nearing retirement and are available for viewing from your Retirement Coordinator.

Charting Your Course, a pre-retirement video for members of the Employees' and Teachers' Retirement and Pension Systems, provides an overview of the steps one should take for a smooth transition into retirement. Presented in a concise question-and-answer format, this video provides a wealth of information in just over 22 minutes.

Questions answered in *Charting Your Course* include:

- When can I retire with full benefits?
- How much money will I get when I retire?
- Which payment option is right for me and my beneficiaries?
- Can I continue my health insurance during retirement?

- What forms do I need to fill out?
- What do I need to know during retirement?

For State Troopers and law enforcement officers, special versions of *Charting Your Course* are available. Like the Employees' and Teachers' version, these two videos provide clear answers to real members' questions about retirement. These videos also include valuable information on the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) and other benefits available to troopers and officers.

A companion handbook highlighting key information contained in the videos is available upon request.

Employees and teachers considering disability retirement also have a video designed just for them. At just over 20 minutes in length, *Your Disability Retirement Benefits* explains how to file for disability, the claims evaluation process and the benefits available to members whose claims are approved.

To view any of these informational videos, contact your Retirement Coordinator in your employer's personnel or human resources department.



State of Maryland Pre-Retirement Planning Seminars – Spring 2005

(For Members of Participating County and Local Governmental Units)

Members within eight years of retirement and their spouses are eligible to attend the following one-day seminars which begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. **Please place "1" (first choice) and "2" (second choice) next to the seminar you wish to attend.** A letter of confirmation will be sent no later than seven business days prior to your scheduled session date.

VA__ February 14 (Monday) Department of Agriculture Annapolis, MD	VH__ March 30 (Wednesday) Frederick Community College Frederick, MD	VO__ May 9 (Monday) Department of Agriculture Annapolis, MD
VB__ February 26 (Saturday) CCBC, Owings Mills Center Owings Mills, MD	VI__ April 15 (Friday) CCBC, Catonsville Campus Catonsville, MD	VP__ May 13 (Friday) Eastern Shore Hospital Center Cambridge, MD
VC__ March 1 (Tuesday) Prince George's Community College Largo, MD	VJ__ April 16 (Saturday) Prince George's Community College Largo, MD	VQ__ May 17 (Tuesday) Frostburg University Frostburg, MD
VD__ March 4 (Friday) Towson University Towson, MD	VK__ April 25 (Monday) Carroll Community College Westminster, MD	VR__ June 16 (Thursday) Prince George's Community College Largo, MD
VE__ March 7 (Monday) Salisbury University Salisbury, MD	VL__ April 29 (Friday) Western Maryland Hospital Center Hagerstown, MD	VS__ June 22 (Wednesday) Harford Community College Bel Air, MD
VF__ March 17 (Thursday) CCBC, Essex Campus Essex, MD	VM__ May 5 (Thursday) College of Southern Maryland La Plata, MD	VT__ June 24 (Friday) CCBC, Owings Mills Center Owings Mills, MD
VG__ March 22 (Tuesday) Montgomery College Rockville, MD	VN__ May 6 (Friday) Towson University Towson, MD	

See page 4 for Registration Information.

State of Maryland Pre-Retirement Planning

(For Members of Participating County and Local Governmental Units)

Registration Form – Spring 2005

Please print all information:

NAME _____
Last First Middle Initial

ADDRESS _____
Number and Street City State Zip Code

EMPLOYER _____
Location

WORK PHONE _____ SOCIAL SECURITY # _____

FAX NUMBER _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____ Mo. Day Yr. _____ Male _____ Female

Please indicate any special assistance required for a handicapped condition. _____

Will spouse attend? Yes _____ No _____ If Yes, please complete the following information:

Spouse Information				
Last name	First	Middle Initial	Social Security No.	Birthdate

Employee's Signature _____ Date _____
(I authorize CCBC to release this information to the State of Maryland.)

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:

(Please be sure to fill out and submit both sides of form)

The Community College of Baltimore County
Pre-Retirement Planning Registration, N106
7201 Rossville Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21237

OR FAX TO:

Fax number: 410-780-6856
Attention: Sarah Cullip

For information call: 410-780-6632

For Office Use Only:
Course # MAN 969 _____

The Mentor is published by
The State Retirement Agency
120 East Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21202-6700
410-625-5555
1-800-492-5909
www.sra.state.md.us

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